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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 EB-08
OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /083 W
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O R 031653Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1198
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 03621

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, EEC, SHUM, XH
SUBJECT: MARCH 1-2 EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS DISCUSSION
OF EASTERN EUROPE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

1. THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE APPROVED A RECENT PAPER ON
THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN THE GDR WHICH CONCLUDED THAT
THE GDR WAS IN FULL CONTROL OF THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN
THE COUNTRY, THAT THE BULK OF THE EAST GERMAN POPULATION
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WAS RESIGNED TO ITS FATE, AND THAT ALTHOUGH THE GDR WOULD
TRY TO AVOID DRAMATIC REPRESSIVE ACTIONS, IN THE END IT
WOULD DO WHAT WAS NECESSARY TO EFFECTIVELY SUPPRESS DIS-
SENT.

2. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS DISCUSSED A RECENT PAPER
PREPARED BY THE PRESIDENCY ON THE QUESTION OF DISSIDENTS

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IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE SOVIET UNION WHICH CONCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

-- THERE IS ACTIVE PUBLIC CONCERN IN THE NINE ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE SOVIET UNION;

-- IF THE EC WERE TO REMAIN SILENT ON THESE VIOLATIONS, ALL THE EFFORT THAT WENT INTO THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT BY THE EC WOULD BE MEANINGLESS;

-- AT THE SAME TIME, OPEN CONFRONTATION WITH THE EAST ON THIS MATTER WOULD PROBABLY BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE AND WOULD JEOPARDIZE NORMALIZED EAST/WEST RELATIONS TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF BOTH THE DISSIDENTS AND THE WEST. THEREFORE, THERE MUST BE CAREFUL BALANCE IN THE COMMUNITY'S APPROACH. THE GENERAL ELEMENTS OF THIS APPROACH SHOULD BE:

1) STATEMENTS BY EC MEMBER STATES SHOULD BE GENERAL IN NATURE AND TIED TO CSCE;

2) THERE SHOULD BE NO ATTEMPT TO AROUSE PUBLIC OPINION IN THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES;

3) REPRESENTATION OF PARTICULAR CASES SHOULD BE PRINCIPALLY LEFT TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS BECAUSE GOVERN-MENT TO GOVERNMENT PRESSURE TENDED TO BE SELF DEFEATING SINCE IT WAS REGARDED BY THE EAST AS UNACCEPTABLE INTER-

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FERE HE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

3. BECAUSE THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS BELIEVED THAT THIS IS A MATTER OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST, THE EXPERTS WERE DIRECTED TO KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON DEVELOPMENTS COJVMENING DISSIDENT ACTIVITY IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE USSR.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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